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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON** [US/US]; 302 East Buchtel Common, Akron, OH 44325 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **YOUNGS, Wiley, J.** [US/US]; 113 Harmony Hills Road, Akron, OH 44321 (US). **TESSIER, Claire, A.** [US/US]; 113 Harmony Hills Road, Akron, OH 44321 (US). **GARRISON, Jared** [US/US]; 1436 Buckingham Gate Boulevard A, Akron, OH 44221 (US). **QUEZADA, Carol** [US/US]; 720 S. Van Buren Avenue, Barbeton, OH 44203 (US). **MELAIYE, Abdulkareem** [NG/US]; 26 E. Tallmadge Avenue, Akron, OH 44310 (US). **PANZNER, Mathew** [US/US]; 279 S. Hawkins Avenue, Akron, OH 44313 (US). **DURMAS, Semih** [TR/US]; 505 Vine Street, Apt. 106, Akron, OH

44304 (US). **AYSEGUL, Kascatan-Nebioglu** [TR/US]; 370 Newton Circle, Apt 507, Akron, OH 44305 (US).

(74) Agent: **MOXON, II, George, W.**; Roetzel & Andress, 222 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44308 (US).

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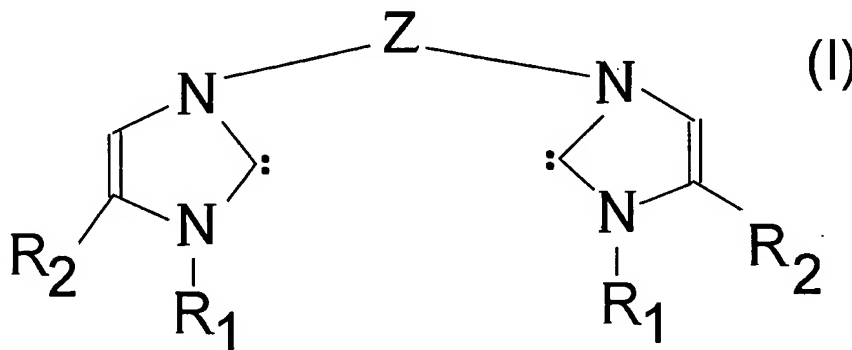
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(54) Title: METAL COMPLEXES OF N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENES AS RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS AND ANTIBIOTICS



(57) Abstract: A method for inhibiting microbial growth comprises administering an effective amount of a silver complex of a N-heterocyclic amine. A method for treating cancer cells or a method for imaging one or more tissues of a patient includes administering an effective amount of a complex of a N-heterocyclic amine and a radioactive metal. N-heterocyclic carbenes of the present invention may be represented by formula (I) wherein Z is a heterocyclic group, and R₁ and R₂ are, independently or in combination, hydrogen or a C₁-C₁₂ organic group selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkyl, alkylaryl, heterocyclic, and alkoxy groups and substituted derivatives thereof.

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